Khadi and Village Industries Commission to be riddled with unethical practices in their administration of public funds and exploitation in their relations with their village workers;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to improve the functioning of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Some of the highlights of a case study of the 'Role of Public Specialised Agencies as Instrument of Women's Equality and Development' by the Centre for Women's Development Studies relating to Khadi and Village Industries (KVIC) appeared in the Indian Express was seen. The report focuses attention on payment of low and unremunerative wages to women, non-observance of labour laws, lack of support services for women where the work is carried on in sheds, and the failure of the KVIC movement to bring social transformation.

(c) The working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has recently been reviewed by Khadi and Village Industries Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Ramakrishnayya, former Deputy Government of Reserve Bank of India. Based on the major recommendations of the Committee in its first report, KVIC Act has been amended to provide for broad and enlarged commission for longer tenure with regional representation and inclusion of experts in science and technology, rural development, marketing etc. Under the amended act, the restriction on the number and type of industry is for KVIC assistance has been removed. These amendments together with amended KVIC Rules have already been notified in July 1987. The other recommendations which are mostly internal to the commission relate to upgrading the technology and skills, effective financial control, better marketing strategy, monitoring etc., are under either implementation or consideration.

As regards the application of labour laws to the Khadi and Village Industries Institutions a study group set up by the Labour Ministry is looking into all aspects.

Refund of deposit by M/s. Maruti Udyog Ltd.

204. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how much time is taken by M/s. Maruti Udyog Limited in refunding the initial deposit amount of Rs. 10,000 (Rupees ten thousand) in case a person wants to cancel the registration for Maruti vehicle and wants to get the refund of the deposit amount;

(b) whether there are any general instructions in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) in case the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, whether his Ministry proposes to issue such instructions and make them public for the benefit of the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The refund of initial deposit normally takes 4 weeks.

(b) to (d) A copy of the guidelines issued by the Government for deployment of funds taken by Companies as advance for booking of vehicles to enable the companies to make prompt refund, is attached, as statement.

Statement

GUIDELINES FOR DEPLOYMENT OF FUNDS TAKEN BY THE COMPANIES AS ADVANCE FOR BOOKING OF VEHICLES

The question of automotive manufacturers accepting deposits as advance for booking of vehicles has been engaging attention of the Government for some time. While these advances may be essentially in the nature of a civil contract. It is not unusual for the depositions to expect a reasonable return in the form of interest and seek re-assurance about their deposit even through Government intervention. It is therefore essential that amounts received from depositors are deployed in a manner which would enable the company to make prompt refunds of the principal amount along with the interest. With a view to maintaining adequate security of depositors money. Government have considered it desirable to prescribe the following guidelines:—

1. Not less than fifty per cent of the deposits received should be deposited with nationalised banks| public sector financial institutions| public sector undertakings, Unit Trust of India and Housing Development Finance Corporation.

2. The balance amount could be utilised by the company as its working capital or for deposit with private sector companies. However, deposit with the private sector will not be more than twenty five per cent of the total deposits received by the company.

3. The deployment of funds on the above basis will be relatable to the deposits available with the company on 30-6-84, and at the end of each of the subsequent quarters i.e. 30-9-84, 31.12.84 and so on.

4. The minimum interest payable on the deposits should be seven per cent per annum compounded annually.

2. Government trusts that automobile manufacturers will take suitable steps for implementation of these guidelines with immediate effect. The position of deposits and their deployment may kindly be reported to the Department of Industrial Development every quarter i.e. 30.6.84, 30.9.84 and so on.

Government issued these guidelines in November, 1983. Subsequently, an amendment was made in the guidelines permitting companies to invest in Unit Trust of India and H.D.F.C. from December 1985, the following cases have been exempted from the purview of the above guidelines:—

(a) Where complete deposits by a manufacturing unit do not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs at any time.

(b) Where waiting list does not exceed 6 months production as also deposits do not exceed Rs. 50 lakhs.

Arrears of NTPC

205. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) the arrears of payments due to the National Thermal Power Corporation from the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking till June 1987;

(b) how much of this amount has been recovered by Government through deduction, in parts, from the Central assistance given to States; and

(c) what are the details regarding the amount recovered so far from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan. Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra; Bihar and Orissa, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Till June. 1987,